

(Ireland.)

Custom and Excise Departments of the Revenue.

(Copies of the Letters, Orders, Instructions, and other Documents, received by the respective Boards from the Commissioners of the Treasury of *Ireland*; respecting the better and more speedy collecting and paying into the Exchequer, the REVENUES of IRELAND; together with the Returns, Reports, and Proceedings thereupon; from the 25th March 1799 to the 1st January 1800.

Return to an Order of 24th July 1804.

Ordered to be printed 24th February 1805.

1. CUSTOM DEPARTMENT - - - - - pp. 1. to 9.
2. EXCISE DEPARTMENT - - - - - pp. 10 to 15.

CUSTOM DEPARTMENT.

Treasury Chambers,
29th April 1799.

Sir,

AS the several Collectors of His Majesty's Revenue have been written to by Order of My Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, respecting the Balances that they hold in hands in consequence of which Letters, their general answer is, that they have received the Revenue in the Bank Notes of Cork, Limerick, Clonmell, or Waterford, &c. according to the contiguity of their respective situations; and that they have been directed by the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue, to receive payment of the King's Duties in any Notes which they had been accustomed to receive it in. In order that this circumstance may be clearly understood, I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, to request you will lay the correspondence, on such subjects that has been carried on for these last three years, before My Lords, as there is a necessity of writing to the Collectors immediately; you will please to send the Books containing said Letters, and when that subject is looked over, they shall be returned carefully.

I am, Dear Sir,
Your Friend and humble Servant,
Thos. Burgess.

Allan Mac Lean, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Treasury Chambers,
August 30th 1799.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Directions having been issued by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, on the 24th ultimo and 13th inst. to John Harrison, Esq. Collector of Eanis, to remit the Balance in his hands, on Account of Revenue, at these periods, and be not complying with those Directions:—

I am ordered by their Lordships, to request you will direct the proper Officer to take charge of that Collection, and to report to you, for their Lordships information, the state of it, with an Account of the Money which such Officer may receive at the time of his taking charge.

I am,
My Lord and Gentlemen,
Your most obedient
humble Servant,
Geo. Sker.

Rt. Hon^{ble} and Hon^{ble}
Commissioners of the Revenue.

Treasury Chambers,
October 1st, 1799.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury having, by a Letter dated the 12th ult. directed Humphry May, Esq. Collector of Waterford, to remit forthwith to the Receiver General, the Balance in his hands, and he not having complied with that Order:—

I am directed by their Lordships, to request you will order a proper Officer to take charge of the Collection of Waterford, and to report to you, for their Lordships information, the state of said Collection, with an Account of the Money which such Officer may receive in liquidation of the Balance due by the present Collector.

I have the honour to be, &c.
Commissioners of the Revenue.
Geo. Sker.

REPORTS AND PROCEEDINGS on the foregoing Letters.

Sir,

I received, and immediately laid before the Board, your Letter of the 29th inst. stating, that as the several Collectors of His Majesty's Revenue have been written to by the Lords of the Treasury, respecting the Balances which they hold in their hands, in consequence of which Letter their general answer is, that they have received the Revenue in Bank Notes of Cork, Limerick, Clonmell, or Waterford, &c. according to the contiguity of their respective situations; and that they have been directed by the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue, to receive payment of the King's Duties in any Notes they had been accustomed to receive it in; and that, in order that this circumstance may be clearly understood, you are directed by the Lords of the Treasury to request, that I will lay the correspondence, on such subjects that has been carried on for these last three years, before their Lordships, as there is a necessity of writing to the Collectors immediately, and that I will send the Books containing said Letters, and they shall be returned carefully.

I am directed by the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue, to transmit to you Copies of the several Orders which they gave on that subject within the said period; viz. on public General Letter dated 10th March 1797, N^o 1; and one private one of the same date accompanying it, N^o 2. The Copy of a Letter written to the Collectors of Ballyrain, Donaghadee, Dundalk, Galway, Killybegs, Limerick, Ross, Sligo, Strangford, and Waterford, in pursuance of their Lordships desire, signified by your Letter of the 2d August 1797, which Letter is N^o 3; and a General Letter dated 6th Feb. 1798, written to all the Collectors, in consequence of the commands of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, signified in Mr. Pelham's Letter of the 3d of that month (N^o 4.) together with a Copy of Mr. Pelham's said Letter, in which that Order was founded, N^o 5.

I am further directed by the Board to acquaint you, for their Lordships information, that the said public and private General Orders of the 10th March 1797, were conceived and formed under the then pressure of affairs, at the instance of, and with the full concurrence and approbation of the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, who came to the Revenue Board, and was present when those Orders were made; that the Board, in the several Orders they gave on that subject, considered themselves co-operating with the wishes of their Lordships, conveyed to them by the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, and acting under the Orders of their Lordships and Government.

Herewith I also transmit to you Copies of the several Orders which have been made by the Board, within the said period, with respect to Bank Notes, in special cases which have arisen in different Collections (N^{os} 6, 7, 8.) to request you will be so good as to lay them before the Lords, and acquaint their Lordships, that the Orders being entered in various books, some of which are in immediate use, Copies of the Letters have been made out for their information; but that if their Lordships still wish to have the Books themselves laid before them, upon their signifying the same, they will be sent up to their Lordships accordingly.

I have, &c.

Thomas Barge, Esq.
30th April 1799.

A. Mac Lean.

COPIES of the CORRESPONDENCE alluded to in the foregoing Letter.

GENERAL ORDER.

Custom House, Dublin,
10th March 1797.

The Board direct you to take National Bank Notes, in payment of His Majesty's Duties, as usual; and acquaint you, that in receiving such other Notes as you approve of, and were in the habit of receiving, you are not to take any Paper which is not negotiable in Dublin; and you are to observe, that these Directions are given you under the present pressure of affairs; and the Board will take care to have them more fully explained to you by Government and the Treasury Board.

By Order of the Commissioners.

A. Mac Lean.

(N^o 1.)

To all the Port Collectors.

10th March.

GENERAL ORDER (private.)

Custom House, Dublin,
10th March 1797.

You will receive a General Order of this date, by which you are to understand, that you are to receive all such Bank Notes in Payment as you have been accustomed to do, except in cases where the Circulation of such Paper has actually stopped; it being rumoured that some Country Banks had stopped Payment.

(N^o 2.)

To all the Port Collectors.

By Order of the Commissioners.

A. Mac Lean.
10th March.Custom House, Dublin,
15th August 1797.

Sir,

The Board have received a Letter from Tho' Burgh, Esq. Secretary to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, dated 2d instant, acquainting them that their Lordships, pursuant to the Orders of Government, issued their Directions, the 5th April last, to the Collectors of the Revenue, to return to them a Weekly State of Balances in their Hands, distinguishing what it consisted of, whether Specie, National or Country Bankers Notes; and as you have not complied with the said Directions, he (Mr. Burgh) is directed by their Lordships, to request the Board to give Directions, that a proper Officer do visit your Collection, inquire into the cause of your not complying with their Lordship's Orders, and to acquaint the Officer that he is to remain at your Collection for some time, to enable him to ascertain what Specie is received by you in Payment of the Revenue, and to report his Observations.

The Board acquaint you, that a Surveyor General will be sent to your Collection, unless you shall strictly comply with the Orders sent you by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury.

(N^o 3.)

To all the Port Collectors.

By Order of the Commissioners.

A. Mac Lean.
17th August.

The foregoing Letter was sent to the Collectors of Ballyrain, Donaghadee, Dundalk, Galway, Killybegs, Limerick, Ros's, Sligo, Strangford, and Waterford.

GENERAL ORDER.

Custom House, Dublin,
5th February 1798.

In pursuance of the Commands of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, signified by Mr. Pelham's Letter of the 3d instant,

The Board direct, that you do take particular care that the Bank Notes you may issue be authentic.

(N^o 4.)

To all the Port Collectors.

By Order of the Commissioners.

A. Mac Lean.
6th February.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Dublin Castle,
3d February 1798.

Having laid before the Lord Lieutenant the two Letters dated the 12th post, which I received from Mr. Mac Lean, your Secretary, on the subject of the forged Bank of Ireland Notes, which were alleged to have been received from your Collector at Belfast, by Captain Clark, Paymaster of the 84th Fencibles, and Captain Carter, Paymaster of the 64th Foot, on account of the Subsistence of those Regiments, and which the Collector had refused to exchange.

23.

B

I have

I have his Excellency's Commands to signify to you, that as it appears by the Collectors Report that the Bank of Ireland Notes, which are alleged to be forged, and which are now in the hands of R. Barry, Esq. were delivered by him to Captains Clark and Carter; it is his Excellency's desire, that you will issue the necessary Orders to the Collector of Belfast to exchange the said Notes, and that you will instruct your several Collectors to take care that the Bank Notes they may issue be authentic.

I have, &c.

T. Pelham.

(N^o 5.)

Commissioners of the Revenue.

Custom House, Dublin,
3d March 1797.

Sir,

The Board have your Letter of the 1st instant, with respect to the Paymaster of the Sligo Militia having refused to take Cork Bank Notes in part of Payment of an Acquittance, and requesting to know how you are to act on this occasion and in future, you having taken those Notes in Payment of the Duties.

The Board refer you to their General Orders of the 26th July and the 6th October 1783.

By Order of the Commissioners.

A. Mac Lean.

3d March.

(N^o 6.)

To the Collector of Kinsale.

Custom House, Dublin,
26th July 1783.

Sir,

Pursuant to his Excellency my Lord Lieutenant's Commands, signified in Mr. Secretary Hamilton's Letter of this day;—

You are to receive as Cash, in payment of all His Majesty's Revenues, the Notes of the Bank of Ireland, without making any Charge for Exchange, or Deduction therefrom, upon any account whatsoever.

(N^o 7.)

To all the Port Collectors.

By Order of the Commissioners.

T. Winder.

Custom House, Dublin,
6th October 1783.

Sir,

Pursuant to the Commands of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant;—

The Board direct you to receive as Cash, in payment of His Majesty's Revenues, the Bills of the Bank of Ireland, payable in seven Days after date, commonly called Post Bills.

(N^o 8.)

To all the Port Collectors.

By Order of the Commissioners.

T. Winder.

Custom House, Dublin,
2d September 1799.

Sir,

The Board have received a Letter from Sir George Shee, Bart. Secretary to the Treasury Board, dated the 30th ultimo, stating, that Directions having been issued by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, on the 24th June last and the 30th August following, to John Harrison, Esq; Collector of Ennis, to remit the Balance in his hands on account of Revenue at these periods, and he not having complied with those Directions, and their Lordships having ordered the Board to direct the proper Officer to take charge of that Collection;—

You

You are forthwith to proceed to Ennis, and take charge of that Collection accordingly, to report the State of it, and to send up the Stated Account of the Money which you may receive at the time of your taking charge.

By Order of the Commissioners.

James Blaquiere, Esq.
Surv^r Gen^l, Ennis.

W. Morgan.
25 September.

Custom House, Dublin,
25th September 1799.

Sir,

The Board have received your Letter dated the 23d instant, in pursuance of theirs of the 2d, in consequence of the Orders of the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, signified by Sir George Shee, Bart. in his Letter of the 30th ultimo; including the Stated Accounts of that Collection, together with the Loan and Stamp Duties, by which a balance appears due by the Collector of £. 8,879. 17s. 4½d. out of which he produced in Limerick Bank Notes, £. 1,825. 6s. 9d. and Arrears returned amounting to £. 3,827. 8s. 6½d. vouched by Affidavit, as appears indorsed and sworn to on the Stated Account; and reporting, that the remaining sum of £. 3,374. 1s. 2½d. was still wanting, and that you called upon him to account for this deficiency; and he said he could not help owning it was so; and hoped in some short time to pay it.

You are to continue in charge, and call upon the Collector to account to the Board for the deficiency, which appears on the face of the Stated Account.

By Order of the Commissioners,

James Blaquiere, Esq.
Surv^r Gen^l.

A. Mac Lean.
26th Sept.

in charge, Ennis.

Sir,

The Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue, received your Letter of the 30th last Month, stating, that Directions having been issued by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, on the 24th June last and 13th August following, to John Harrison, Esq. Collector of Ennis, to remit the Balance in his hands on account of the Revenue, at these periods, and he not having complied with those Directions, and you having signified their Lordships request that the Board would direct the proper Officer to take charge of that Collection, and report the state of it, and to send up the Stated Account of the Money he might receive at the time of his taking charge; the Board thereupon immediately gave Orders to James Blaquiere, Esquire, Surveyor General accordingly.

And having this day received from him a Letter, dated Ennis, the 23d instant, enclosing the Stated Account of that Collection, together with the Loan and Stamp Duties, by which a Balance appears due by the Collector of £. 8,879. 17s. 4½d. out of which he reports the Collector produced in Limerick Bank Notes £. 1,825. 6s. 9d. and Arrears returned amounting to £. 3,827. 8s. 6½d. vouched by Affidavit, as appears indorsed and sworn to on the Stated Account; and the Surveyor General also reports, that the remaining sum of £. 3,374. 1s. 2½d. was still wanting, and that he called upon the Collector to account for this deficiency; and he said he could not help owning it was so, and hoped in some short time to pay it.

The Board have referred the Stated Account to the Accountant General for examination; they have also continued the Surveyor General in charge, and they have called upon the Collector to account to them for the deficiency which appears on the face of the Stated Account.

I am directed by the Board to acquaint you of these particulars, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury.

I have, &c.

Sir George Shee, Bart.

A. Mac Lean.
25th September.

Custom House, Dublin,
2d October 1799.

Sir,

The Board having received a Letter from Sir George Shee, Bart. Secretary to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, dated 1st instant, stating, that their Lordships having, by Letter dated 12th ultimo, directed Humphry May, Esquire, Collector of Waterford, to remit forthwith to the Receiver General the balance in his hands, and he not having complied with that Order, he (Sir George) is directed by their Lordships to request the Board will order a proper Officer to take charge of the Collection of Waterford, and to report to the Board, for the information of the Lords of the Treasury, the state of the said Collection, with an Account of the Money which such Officer may receive in liquidation of the balance due by the present Collector.

You are to proceed immediately (in consequence of the said request) to Waterford, and take charge of that Collection, and as soon as possible to report to the Board, for their Lordships information, the state of the said Collection, and send up the Stated Accounts thereof, with an Account of the Money which you may receive in liquidation of the balance due by the present Collector.

By Order of the Commissioners.

Edward Hunt, Esquire,
Surveyor General, Jerpoint.

A. Mac Lean.
2d October.

Custom House, Dublin,
7th October 1799.

Sir,

The Board have received your Letter of the 5th instant, stating, that pursuant to their Order of the 2d. (in consequence of the Directions of the Lords of the Treasury) you proceeded to Waterford, to take charge of that Collection, and called upon the Collector, from whom you enclose a Letter of the same date, wherein he states, that he had complied with the Order of their Lordships of the 12th September, in which they directed him to remit £. 9,000. being the balance at that time; and to prove which the Collector produced to you the Receiver General's Receipt for £. 9,887. 10s. and that he counted out his full balance to the 5th instant, which he requested you would receive from him.

Under these circumstances, the Board do not think it necessary to enforce that part of the Order, which directed you to take the actual charge of that Collection out of the Collector's hands; but you are to proceed again immediately to Waterford, and make inspection of the state of the Collection, and send up the Stated Accounts to the Board as soon as possible.

By Order of the Commissioners.

Edward Hunt, Esq.
Surveyor Genl, Jerpoint.

A. Mac Lean.
7th October.

Sir,

In my Letter of the 2d instant, I had the honour of acquainting you, that, in pursuance of the request of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, signified by your Letter of the 1st. they had ordered Edward Hunt, Esq. Surveyor General, to proceed immediately to Waterford, and take charge of that Collection, and as soon as possible to report to the Board (for their Lordships information) the state of the said Collection, and to send up the Stated Accounts thereof, with an Account of the Money which Mr. Hunt might receive in liquidation of the balance due by the present Collector.

I am directed by the Board to acquaint you, for their Lordships further information, that they have by this morning's post received from Mr. Hunt, a Letter dated the 5th instant, that he had proceeded accordingly, and called upon the Collector, from whom he encloses a Letter of the same date, wherein he states that

he

he had complied with the Order from the Lords of the Treasury of the 12th September, in which they directed him to remit £.9,000, being the balance at that time, and to prove which the Collector produced to Mr. Hunt the Receiver General's Receipt for £.9,887. 10s.; and that he counted out his full balance to the 5th instant, which he requested he would receive from him.

Under the foregoing circumstances, the Board did not think it necessary to enforce that part of the Order, which directed the Surveyor General to take actual charge of that Collection out of the Collector's hands; but they have ordered him to proceed on an Inspection of the state of the said Collection, and to send up the Stated Accounts to the Board as soon as possible.

I have, &c.

Sir George Sains, Bart.

Alan Mac Lean.

7th October 1799.

EXCISE DEPARTMENT.

(N^o 1.)Treasury Chambers,
June 1st 1799.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury request to be furnished with an Account of the several Surcharges of Excise, from the 25th March 1796 to the 25th March 1799, distinguishing the persons on whom such Surcharges have been made, what Sums have been paid on account of such Surcharges, and what has been bonded or discharged by subsequent workings, and if any Sums remain due on such Surcharges, what steps have been taken for the recovery of the same.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient

humble Servant,

Thomas Burgess.

Right honourable and honourable
Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue.

(N^o 2.)Treasury Chambers,
June 1st 1799.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury request to be furnished with an Account of the Arrears of Excise on the 25th of March last, distinguishing the several Districts, the persons owing the same, the time each article first became in Arrear, what steps have been taken, and at what time, for the recovery thereof, and the reason why such Arrears have not been collected.

And if any arrangement shall have been made for the payment of such Arrears by Instalments, to specify the Orders under which such arrangements have been made, the Amount of the Instalments, with the period at which such Instalment is payable, and also the Sum that remains to be paid by each person to whom such indulgence has been granted.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient

humble Servant,

Thomas Burgess.

Right honourable and honourable
Commissioners of the Revenue.

(N^o 3.)Treasury Chambers,
June 1st 1799.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, by their Letter of the 7th December 1796, did request you to acquaint them what steps Mr. Carr had taken for the recovery of the balances due by dismissed and deceased Collectors, and how the proceedings did stand at that day.

There having also arose some difficulty with the Solicitors of the Revenue, relative to the recovery of the balances due by Henry Tisdale Esq; late Collector of Athlone; Edward Hunt, Esq. Surveyor General, when in charge of the Collection of Athlone; the honourable John Browne, late Collector of Foxford; and David Freeman, Esq. late Collector of Foxford; their Lordships did issue Directions to the Accountant General to forthwith furnish the balances that each of those Accountants did actually owe.

That on the 9th May 1798, their Lordships did issue Directions to R. Waller, Esq. and R. C. Carr, Esq. to report to them, after the term then sitting, what state of progress their proceedings were in for the recovery of dismissed and deceased Collectors

lectors' balances, what sums were recovered in consequence of such proceedings, since their Lordships Directions to them on the subject, particularizing each sum, and the parties from whom it was recovered.

I am therefore directed by their Lordships, to request you to call on the several Officers mentioned to report on the same, it being necessary for the public service, that their Lordships should be furnished with the information required by their several Letters, and that measures should be immediately taken for the recovery of what may be due by the several defunct and deceased Collectors as aforesaid.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient

humble Servant,

Thos. Burgk.

Right honourable and honourable
Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue.

Treasury Chambers,
June 20th 1799.

(N^o 4.)

My Lord and Gentlemen,

By an Act of the last Session of Parliament, intituled, "An Act for granting to His Majesty certain Rates and Duties on Dwelling Houses inhabited, according to the Number of Windows or Lights therein respectively," it is therein enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Chief Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue, or any three or more of them, to appoint such Salaries and Rewards to be paid to the several Officers who shall be employed in the execution of this Act, and such incidental Expenses attending the same, as shall be directed by the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, and approved of by the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of this Kingdom.

And, in order to carry the above recited Act into execution:—

I am directed by the Lords Commissioners, of the Treasury, to request you to report to them what mode and what rate you may think most expedient to be adopted relative to Salaries, Rewards, and incidental Expenses, to be given to such Officers as shall be employed in the collecting of those Duties.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient

humble Servant,

Thos. Burgk.

Right honourable and honourable
Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue.

Treasury Chambers,
August 7th 1799.

(N^o 5.)

My Lord and Gentlemen,

The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, by their Letter of the 20th June last, requested you to report to their Lordships what mode and what rate you thought most expedient to be adopted relative to Salaries, Rewards, and incidental Expenses, to be given to such Officers as should be employed in collecting the Duties on Windows or Lights, agreeable to the power vested in them.

And you having, by your Letter of the 28th June last, stated to their Lordships, that you were of opinion, that from the additional labour and responsibility which must attach on the Officers who are to be employed in collecting this Duty, the mode most expedient to be adopted for remunerating the Collectors, would be an allowance of £. 2. 10s. per cent. on the Sum collected, to be paid under particular restrictions, calculated to promote the prompt Collection, not only of the said Duties, but those upon Hearths, Carriages, and Male Servants, and the immediate payment to the chief Collector of the Sums so received.

You were further of opinion, "That you did consider the Supervisors of Hearth-money entitled to some allowance, for the great increase of business which will be imposed

imposed upon them by the plan proposed, for which you conceived an addition of £.40 a year to their present Salary, not too great a compensation.

The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, having taken the same into consideration, did, by their Letter of the 16th ult. lay the whole of what is recommended by you, before his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant for his approbation.—

And his Excellency having, on the 27th ult. approved of what was proposed to be given to the Officers employed in collecting the Duties on Windows of £.2. 10s. per cent. on the Sum collected, and £.40 a year to the Supervisors of Hearth-money, in addition to their present Salary, for the great increase of business that they are to have.

I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, to acquaint you, that, agreeably to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant's approbation, you are to pay to each Officer employed in collecting the Duties on Windows £.2. 10s. per cent. on the Sum collected and paid to the chief Collector, and £.40. a year to the Supervisors of Hearth-money, in addition to their present Salary, for their increase of business.

And their Lordships recommend to your consideration, the necessity of having, for each Officer, prior to his entering on Duty, sufficient Security to discharge any delinquency that may arise by the failure of an Officer in payment of the Duties he may collect, to the chief Collector.

I have the honour to be,
My Lord and Gentlemen,
Your most humble Servant,
George Skee.

COPIES of the RETURNS, REPORTS, and PROCEEDINGS,
upon the foregoing Letters, from the 25th of March 1799 to the 1st of
January 1800.

(N^o 1. & 2.)

GENERAL ORDER.

Excise Office Dublin,
6th June 1799.

Sir,

In consequence of a Letter from Mr. Burgh, Secretary to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, dated the 1st instant.—

The Board direct, that you do furnish them, in as short a time as possible, with the following Account, viz.

An Account of the several Surcharges of Excise, from the 25th of March 1796 to the 25th March 1799, distinguishing the Persons upon whom such Surcharges have been made, what Sums have been paid on account of such Surcharges, and what has been bonded for or discharged by subsequent workings, and if any Sums remain due on such Surcharges, what steps have been taken for recovery of the same.

A. Worthington.

Honourable Sirs,

Pursuant to your Order, I beg leave to lay before you a General Abstract of the Arrears of Excise, which were outstanding on the 25th of March last, together with the payments made thereon the 15th June following, continued from the Returns made by the different Collectors, which Returns, containing their Observations, your Honours will find to accompany my Statement.

Your Honours will perceive there is one blank in the General Abstract, viz. Londonderry. I do suppose the Collector, who is at all times very regular in his different Returns, can assign some satisfactory reason for the omission.

I beg the Board will believe, that I have bestowed on their Order all the attention I could command, but the various delays given by several Collectors, and the very unsatisfactory manner in which others made their Returns, obliged me to be
thus

thus late in laying the Statement before your Honours; I have, however, much satisfaction in acquainting the Board, that the Arrears returned for Michaelmas Quarter are in a much more regular state than heretofore.

I am, Honourable Sirs,

Your faithful and obedient Servant,

Paul Dawson,

Ex^r Arrears.

25th Nov. 1799.

Excise Office, Dublin,

4th December 1799.

Sir,

Thomas Burgh, Esq. having, by Letter dated the 1st June 1799, signified the request of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, to be furnished with an Account of the Arrear of Excise on the 25th March last, with the particulars required in said Letter.

In compliance therewith, the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue have directed me to transmit to you, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, a General Abstract of the Arrears of Excise which were outstanding on the 25th March 1799, together with the Payments made thereon to the 15th June following, according to the Returns made by the different Collectors; which Returns, containing the Collectors observations from which the General Abstract was continued, are herewith transmitted for their Lordships more particular observation.

But I am at the same time directed to inform you, that the said Returns are in some instances not as full and satisfactory as the Board ordered, and the Collectors have been called on in those instances for further explanation.

And that no further delay should arise to their Lordships receiving the Returns required by them, the Commissioners have sent the present Statement for their information, rather than to wait for any further Return.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

Alex^r Washington.

Sir Geo. Sherr, Bart.

&c. &c.

Treasury Chambers.

Excise Office, Dublin,

23d August 1799.

(N^o. 3.)

Sir,

The Board having repeatedly called upon you, to report a state of the proceedings for the recovery of balances due by deceased and dismissed Collectors, which Order you have not complied with;—

The Board direct that you do, without the least delay, lay before them a state of the proceedings had for the recovery of balances due by deceased and dismissed Collectors; and also, an Account of all other persons now in any manner indebted to the Crown, against whom proceedings have been ordered or taken for the recovery of the balances, or money in any manner due to the Crown; specifying the Sums originally due, the Sums recovered and paid in, and the Sums outstanding, and in what state of progress the suits or proceedings, for the recovery of the money still due, stand at the present time; and they also direct, that you do use all possible dispatch to enforce payment of such parts thereof as are at present outstanding.

By Order of the Commissioners.

A. Washington.

Mr. Carr, Solicitor.

In regard to the proceedings at large for the recovery of balances due by deceased or dismissed Collectors of the Revenue, the same have been transmitted to Government, to be laid before the Imperial Parliament, in consequence of an Order of that House, and a Copy thereof transmitted to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury.

(N^o 4.)

Hearth-money Office, 21st June 1799.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

In obedience to your Honour's Orders, to report our opinion on the subject of a Letter from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, dated June 20th, we beg leave to state, with due respect and deference, that we are clearly of opinion, very great additional trouble and responsibility must attach on the several Officers, who are to be employed in the collecting and superintending the Collection of the Duties on Window Lights, and that the more liberally they may be dealt by, so much the more fully and correctly it may be expected that the Duty will be collected.

We are clearly of opinion, that the mode most expedient to be adopted for remunerating the immediate Collectors, would be by a per-centage on the Sum collected; and we are of opinion, that if the per-centage should be extended to what may be collected on the Male Servants Duty, the most beneficial effects might be expected; besides, that such a mode of payment must operate as the strongest stimulus to the Collector to do his duty fully and faithfully, it might be accompanied by Regulations, materially tending to the quick Collection of and regular accounting for the several Duties.

We therefore submit, with respect and deference, for your Honour's consideration:—

That the Collector of the Duties be paid by his chief Collector the per-centage allowed on the Sum by him paid on account of the Duties on Windows and on Male Servants, on each Office day; provided, that such Collector of the Duties regularly attends on the day appointed for the Office, and makes payment of all the Duties he may have collected on Fire Hearths, on Carriages, on Male Servants, and on Window Lights, as officially certified by his Supervisor on the regular Abstract: And provided further, that such Collector has not absented himself from an Office (save as allowed by his instructions) from his being ordered on Collection for the year.

That the chief Collector should have credit (and only so) for all such payments of the per-centage in his Account of Incidents on the Duties, on producing the Hearth Collector's Receipts, and obtaining a certificate from the Hearth-money Office, that the Sums claimed amount to no more than the per-centage allowed on the payments made by the Hearth Collector, on account of the Duties on Windows and Male Servants, and that the Abstracts for the several payments had been received in the regular course of the Post, after the Office days on which the payments should have been made.

That from the very considerable increase, the addition of the Duties on Windows and Male Servants, must make in the Collection of a Hearth Collector, the Offices for receipt of his payments should be held more frequent than heretofore, and with the greatest regularity. Offices once in each month for country walks, and twice in the month (of four weeks) for the walks of the cities of Dublin, Cork, Limerick, and Waterford, and the town of Belfast, would, in our opinion, fully answer the safety of the Revenue. In this case the chief Collectors, having Hearth Collectors attached to their Collections, should respectively consult with the Supervisor, and appoint convenient days for Offices accordingly—The first, to be held immediately after the General Orders for placing the Hearth Collectors on Duty, issues in the usual course from the Hearth-money Office, and to succeed each other at no greater interval than four or two weeks, as proposed; and immediately, after the appointment of such Offices, they should be notified to the Hearth-money Office.

That the more frequent attendance on Offices, and doubling the quantity of Accounts to be examined by the Supervisor on each payment, by the addition of the Duties on Windows and Male Servants, must materially increase his labour and trouble, and employ a much greater portion of his time, for which he will expect, and, in our opinion, deserves remuneration.

We have the honour to be,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

Edward Winder, Assistant Examiner.

Thomas Wray, Inspector General.

Right hon^{ble} and hon^{ble}
Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue.

Excise Office, Dublin,
28th June 1799.

Sir,

The Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue have directed me to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter, dated the 20th inst. requesting, by Direction of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, that the Commissioners of the Revenue should report to their Lordships what mode and what rate they should think most expedient to be adopted, relative to Salaries, Rewards, and incidental Expences, to be given to such Officers as shall be employed in the collecting of the Duties on Dwelling Houses inhabited, according to the number of Windows or Lights therein respectively, by an Act of the last Session of Parliament.

And I am directed by the Commissioners of the Revenue to acquaint you, for their Lordships information, that upon due consideration of the additional labour and responsibility which must attach on the Officers who are to be employed in collecting this Duty, the Commissioners are of opinion, that the mode most expedient to be adopted for remunerating the Collectors, would be an allowance of £2. 10 s. per cent. on the Sum collected, to be paid under particular restrictions, calculated to promote the prompt Collection, not only of the said Duties but of those upon Hearths, Carriages, and Male Servants, and the immediate Payment to the chief Collector of the Sums so received.

And I am further directed to acquaint you, that the Commissioners also consider the Supervisors of Hearth-money, entitled to some allowance for the great increase of business, which will be imposed upon them by the plan proposed, for which they conceive an addition of £.40. a year to their present Salary not too great a compensation.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

Thomas Bargh.

&c. &c.

Treasury Chambers.

Alexander Worthington.

(N^o. 5.)

Notice signed to the Hearth-money Office, for the information of the Supervisors and Collectors of Hearth-money, &c.

A W.
10th August 1799.

